



**ARAPAHOE COUNTY**  
COLORADO'S FIRST

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# News Release

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## **Make this holiday season a special one with the Adopt a Family program** *Gifts sponsors needed for local foster youth, at-risk adults and families in need*

**Aurora, Colo.** – The holidays are just around the corner and as you get ready to buy presents for your loved ones this year we hope you will consider sharing the holiday season with local foster youth, at-risk adults and families in need.

Arapahoe County's Department of Human Services invites you to be a part of our Adopt a Family Holiday Giving Program and donate new, wrapped gifts to local citizens who may otherwise go without gifts this year.

"These are children and at-risk adults who are victims of abuse and neglect and families who are experiencing dire financial hardship," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Nancy Sharpe. "Help bring joy to them and brighten the season for our neighbors in need by signing up to be a sponsor."

As a sponsor, you'll receive a wish list and a needs list. You can donate gifts on your own, with a group of friends or associates at work. The Program Coordinator will match you with a child, senior or family whose needs and wish list touches your heart and matches your budget. The lists include basic needs, such as clothing, toiletries, household items, grocery cards and bus passes, as well as a few wishes, such as toys or games.

Adopt a family is a non-profit program of the Arapahoe county Foundation that was started by County employees in 2001 in order to provide holiday gifts to clients in the child welfare, public assistance and child support programs. The program has benefited more than 6,000 individuals over the years.

Now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year, the Adopt a Family program needs sponsors for about 1,000 individuals by Nov. 30. Sign up as a sponsor at [www.arapahoegov.com/adoptafamily](http://www.arapahoegov.com/adoptafamily).

Sponsors are asked to deliver new, wrapped gifts Dec. 8-11 to the County's Winter Wonderland location at the Department of Human Services, 14980 E. Alameda Drive, Aurora or earlier by appointment. The adopted families remain anonymous due to Human Services confidentiality requirements and will pick up their gifts at a later time. Adopt a Family also welcomes monetary donations by check, credit card or electronic funds transfer to help purchase gifts for families.

For more information, please visit [www.arapahoegov.com/adoptafamily](http://www.arapahoegov.com/adoptafamily) or call 303-636-1851.

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**Click link for**

**photos:** <ftp://ftp.arapahoegov.com/Pub/Communication%20Services/Photos/Human%20Services/>

**Description:** Adopt a Family program volunteers collect sponsor gifts for pick up.

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